



# CITY OF SANTEE

## Water Conservation & Water Quality

### Stormwater Information

*Did you know that you can help protect San Diego's water quality by using water more efficiently? By preventing over-irrigation and unnecessary outdoor water use, you can help to prevent polluted water runoff from entering our stormwater conveyances and waterways. Here are a few ways you can help out:*

- **Sweep it up:** Use a broom to clean your porch or driveway instead of a hose (save 8 to 18 gallons of water per minute).
- **Vehicle washing:** Wash cars or boats with a bucket and sponge, and only use a hose with a self-closing nozzle. Do not allow runoff to leave the property; direct water toward landscaped areas, or take to car wash facility (save 8 – 18 gallons per minute).
- **Decrease lawn space:** Reduce the amount of water-thirsty grass; replace with water wise native plants (save 30 - 60 gallons a day per 1,000 square feet). \*
- **Use mulch:** Add a few inches of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation and help prevent weed growth and reduce the need for pesticides (save 40 gallons of water per day). For *free* mulch, visit [www.theforestrygroup.com](http://www.theforestrygroup.com) or [www.atlastree.com](http://www.atlastree.com).
- **Harvest rainwater:** Did you know...One inch of rain falling on a 1,000 square foot roof can harvest 600 gallons of rainwater? Find out how easy it is to make and install a DIY rain barrel system (or see list of local retailers) at [www.rethinkwateruse.org](http://www.rethinkwateruse.org) \*
- **Repair leaks:** Identify and repair broken irrigation pipes, dripping faucets, and broken sprinkler heads (save as much as 10 gallons of per minute per leak).
- **Adjust your sprinklers:** Water your landscape, not the pavement. Prevent overspray and water runoff (save an average of 15-20 gallons per day).
- **Adjust watering times:** Shorten watering times by 1-3 minutes to prevent water runoff. Water only at night or in the early morning hours to limit the amount of water evaporation (save 20-25 gallons per day per valve).
- **Install drip systems:** Drip irrigation systems water only where needed, directly on the root systems of individual plants (save up to 25 gallons per day).
- **Implement smart irrigation controllers:** Smart controllers automatically adjust the amount of water that is used based on weather conditions at your house (save 40 gallons per day).\*

For further information visit: [www.watersmartsd.org](http://www.watersmartsd.org), or [www.saveourwater.com](http://www.saveourwater.com). If you have questions regarding specific water conservation requirements, please contact the local water provider, [www.padredam.org](http://www.padredam.org). To report Stormwater Pollution, call 1-888-846-0800.

\* = Rebates are Available

**WHEN IN  
DROUGHT**

Save every day, every way.